

Special A, Vol. 3

Maki Minami

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Kei und Akiras Sandkastenfreund Yahiro erzählt Hikari, dass Kei in Hikari verliebt ist. Seither kann Hikari nur verkrampft und ungeschickt mit Kei reden... Währenddessen beginnt ein Wettkampf zur Bestimmung des Reiseziels der Special-A!! Sollte Hikari hier verlieren, muss sie Kei persönlich weitersagen, was Yahiro ihr erzählt hat...!

Special A, Vol. 3 Details

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From Reader Review Special A, Vol. 3 for online ebook

Nidah (SleepDreamWrite) says

Another good volume.

Janet Wu says

Okay, I know it seems cruel, but I feel like the author has disappointed me. The series was supposed to be about Hikari and Kei but as soon as I started on the books after vol.2 it seemed like it was more about all of the S.A. students and not mainly Hikari and Kei. Sorry Maki Minami.

Though it's more about S.A. students then the 2, the humor is still all in there which makes me very happy. Hikari is still her normal optimistic self and Kei is moody as usual. The have their Lover's Spat which gets them in all sorts of trouble, and Hikari works on admitting her attraction to Kei. Very satisfying.

Alexei says

Come check out my book blog! Teenage Bookaholic

SYNOPSIS: *Please note that this is a review for the entire series, comprised of 17 books*

Hikari Hanazono is not your typical high school girl. While she comes from a modest background, she strives to do her best at anything and everything to top her rival. After losing an impromptu wrestling match as a child, Hikari made it her life's goal to beat Kei Takishima, a wealthy child who is destined to work for the family business, any way possible. She is so determined, she enrolled in the same elite private school as Kei, and worked her way to be number 2 out of not just her class, but the entire school, making her a part of an elite group of 7 called Special A. For Hikari, it's not enough, as Kei is sitting pretty as number 1.

With her friends, Akira, Megumi, Jun, Tadashi, and Ryu along for the ride, Special A follows the comedic adventures of the top 7 students at Hakusenkan High- as Kei is forced to work for the family business, as Jun learns to love, as Megumi finds her voice, as Ryu discovers the hidden face of love, as Tadashi opens up, and as Hikari continues to fight for number 1!

REVIEW: Unlike YA novels, I do not know my favorite type of manga yet. I mostly pick manga based on what series has the first volume on my library's shelves.... It can be a hit or miss, but this was a hit.

Similar to Veronica Roth, the series has a fast pace to it, constantly creating new drama and plot twists that never let the series grow boring. Some things you could see coming, but others not so much. Either way, I was not bored, and the book did not have any prolonged focus on romances, which can be boring for me. The story was also relatable: a student striving for success with friend drama, as well as personal dramas.

With most manga, I have issue of telling characters apart; just when I think it's Person A talking, its Person R, a close look-a-like to Person A, and even when I can tell the characters apart (barely), I still cannot remember the long, authentic Japanese names. None of these issues came up in the series. Consistently, the

series would use the formal last name AND informal first, which helped me remember the name as Hikari Hanazono, not Ms. Hanazono or just Hikari... something. Also, the art was very well done, allowing me to tell character differences by expression and hairstyle.

This leads me to the art, which was glorious! Much detail was taken in to the backgrounds (as pointed out by Minami in her novels), and outfits. I also enjoyed the sporadic and roaming quarter pages of commentary. How she talks about a pseudo burglary at her place while the gang is in some sort of peril added a sense of nonchalance that fit the series. It's about the adventure these characters take, rather than following the emotion of the drama.

While this all sounds like a great series, a few elements ruined the series for me. First was the panel styling. Many of the panels were overlapping, which led to a choppy flow of reading. Incredibly distracting and confusing, which stole from enjoying the series. Second, the focus could have been turned more towards other characters in the series. It is titled Special A, but the story mainly focuses on Hikari and Kei. I personally would have liked to learn more about what happened to Ryu and his lover before the conclusion, or whether Akira and her old friend could get along. It had more chapters on Hikari and Kei than any one S.A. member. Lastly, I was not a fan of outside girls, interfering with Kei and Hikari. I am not saying I was protective of Kei and Hikari, but I found it rather obnoxious. It was framed like the S.A. were a special elite group, which they were, and everyone else, who wasn't rich at least, was an outsider to the group. It was like the author had to put the characters on a pedestal to make the series work, which wasn't necessary. It seemed almost like the group was discriminatory towards anyone not of wealth, and when I say discriminatory, I mean they behaved like elitists rather than hateful. Hikari was an exception from an early age, mind you.

All in all, Special A was a comedic read that was pleasurable and realistic. It had good momentum until the end, and was interesting to see how the schooling system works in Japan. I would give it more stars if not for the misleading paneling.

I will now conclude with my favorite quote from page 10 of volume 12:

"Ryu: YOU DON'T GET TO PICK! And why a mountain?!!

Tadashi: A MOUNTAIN WOULD BE ANY GUY'S DREAM!!

Ryu: Go eat a s'more.

Tadashi: That's amore.

Ryu: Mahjongg!

Tadashi: GAME!"

Yue says

I am starting to really really like this manga, it is so funny! The expressions of Hikari are hilarious. And we finally get to know more about the other members of the SA. I find it very amusing that almost everyone find Kei so scary. I definitely want to watch the anime, I hope it is as funny as the manga!

Michelle. D. says

I love Tadashi!!! He is my favourite character!!!!!!!

Tadashi ♥♥♥ :D

So this review is for the overall series. I give the overall series 5 stars because it was really good.

Funny at times, romantic at times, cute at times, sad at times. Also, I really loved the art (It's true! I have some saved pictures from things in the book.)

I would like to say that Hikari is SOOOOOOOO dense. I mean like crazy. I'm not even joking. I'm not going to tell you why but I want to say that when she said that and Takishima was all surprised and some-what happy but then she said something else, I was like in my head, "Wow. She is just so... wow."

One thing I really love in this book is how Megumi and Jun love Ryuu. It is just so entertaining watching them hug Ryuu. Be protective of you. Huh, it was so cute it was hilarious.

I find it very surprising what Finn is. I was like "HOLY SHIT!" in the book when I found out. And then with Ryuu and then Hikari. LOL. I hate Finn's father for a reason you will find out if you read the books. :D

I'm not sure if you care but. in this manga there is this one picture of Takishimi and Hikari that I just love to stare at. It looks very nice and I love it for some reason. I even hang it up in my room. I'm such a loser.

I like Megumi's name. I like the fact that she can sing so good that it is dangerous. I also love how she writes down what she wants to say.

Takishima in the manga I like; not so much in the anime. This is probably because in the anime, Takishimi has brown hair a kinda really deep voice and is really thin and lanky (most of the characters in the manga are thin and lanky. :P. In the manga, Takishimi has blond hair, I imagine him with a slighter higher voice and he isn't that thin and lanky. Anyway....

Miss Number Too. I love how Takishima always finds a way to be number one. Like that one test when he got 105%. LAWLS!

So here's what I thought of the book. It was really good. Funny, romantic(in a weird way?) and entertaining. Even though it is Shoujo, I think everyone should read it. :D

Reader17 Der says

This is such a great series. They try to go on vacation during summer break. Kei has some issues with some of the guys checking Hikari out. These guys want to beat up Kei for being with her. In another part while on vacation they have to look out for a little cousin who makes them each pretend to be someone. Poor Hikari has to pretend to be the family dog. Also in this series Hikari is still trying to deal with being told by Yahiro that Kei actually loves her. She doesn't believe him at all.

Ahmad Sharabiani says

Special A, Vol. 3 (Special A #3), Maki Minami

Yahiro, a childhood friend of Kei and Akira, tells Hikari that Kei is in love with her. An embarrassed Hikari would confront Kei to find out the truth...if she wasn't so busy avoiding him!

MarsianMan says

Note: This review is a series review, not really a volume specific review.

One of my favorite mangas. An excellent shoujo (meaning it is a comic aimed at teenage girls) story about Hikari whose life mission is to beat Kei. She goes to a very expensive school (one that her family can barely afford) for the sole purpose of trying to beat Kei. Poor Hikari is a clueless and loving girl who is always #2 in everything while Kei is #1. A good mix of drama, hilarity, and sweetness.

Jenny Clark says

Ahahahaha loveing this series so far. Its so cute and sweet! Absolutly love Kei and Hikari's relationship again! And the helicopter rescue... hehehe.

So I have a question for my fellow manga lovers. .. Actually two... I want to get Wild Ones and La Corda D' Oro. Are they worth it? And who is your favarite manga publisher?

Lauren says

This series was amazing! Hikari and Kai's relationship is so comedic and heartwarming. I got through this series so fast and I just wanted to keep reading. All the characters are fun and this series is very entertaining.

If you liked Ouran High School Host Club I would recommend this series.

Patricia says

As always, nice, but not really mindblowing. I do prefer this type of romance compared to some of the rather urgh-inducing shoujos out there, though.

There were several cute Kei scenes, too. Like.. him hilariously much enjoying her being the 'dog'. Couldn't stop laughing when he said "Papa" could take her inside. Haha!

Cecilyn says

Notes: Hakusenkan High School

Trip to Hawaii.. And fake GF episode... Ryu's challenge... Error in Hikari's profile (pg 36). It listed her having a younger brother... Should it not be an older brother instead?

Hannah says

Series Review: Special A is a interesting and cute manga that I really enjoyed. It was funny and entertaining plot and character wise. I most enjoyed the dynamic between the characters. I recommend giving this manga a try.

Daniellesof2014 says

The S.A. students are going to Hawaii for a summer break. Hikari went shopping with her friends Akiria and Megumi; they dragged along Kei because he had nothing else better to do. After words they go to Ryu's villa to stay where they meet the Chitose the baby brother of Yahiro. She goes to his villa with him because he wouldn't let go of Hikari, that's where he proposed a deal with her, she would be bait for a plan of his that would go his way.

This book remained of when Bella went to James thinking that her mother was in James's clutches but she wasn't and Edward goes to save her, well in the book Kei goes to basically save Hikari from Yahiro.

I gave this book 5 stars because I thought that the part where Hikari is being saved by Kei was the best part of the book.

Alya Atiera says

[I don't know why but I really ship Megumi and Yahiro. And I'm a bit annoyed with Akira's character. Seriously. And OMG NOT TO FORGET THE PROPOSAL. I so did not see that coming. Hahaha Kei is just, man I don't know... perfe
